# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS No. 24-1268V

JEANMARIE WALSH,

**Chief Special Master Corcoran** 

Petitioner,

Filed: April 4, 2025

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SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

David John Carney, Green & Schafle LLC, Philadelphia, PA, for Petitioner.

Elizabeth Andary, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

## **DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES**<sup>1</sup>

On August 19, 2024, Jeanmarie Walsh filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, et seq.² (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA") following an influenza vaccination she received on October 18, 2022. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On February 18, 2025, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for her SIRVA. On April 4, 2025, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer") indicating Petitioner should be awarded \$57,500.00 for pain and suffering. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc">https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc</a>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet. In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2018).

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of \$57,500.00, for pain and suffering, to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to Petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>3</sup>

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran Brian H. Corcoran Chief Special Master

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

# IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

JEANMARIE WALSH,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 24-1268V Chief Special Master Brian H. Corcoran ECF

### RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On August 19, 2024, Jeanmarie Walsh ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 ("Vaccine Act" or "Act"), as amended, alleging that she suffered a Table shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA"), as the result of an influenza ("flu") vaccination received on October 18, 2022. Petition at 1.

On February 4, 2025, the Secretary of Health and Human Services ("respondent") filed a Rule 4(c) Report indicating that this case is appropriate for compensation under the terms of the Act for a SIRVA Table injury. ECF No. 15. On February 18, 2025, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement finding petitioner entitled to compensation. ECF No. 17.

### I. Items of Compensation

## A. Pain and Suffering

Based upon the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded a lump sum of \$57,500.00 for pain and suffering. Petitioner agrees.

This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

#### II. Form of the Award

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment as described below and requests that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following<sup>1</sup>: a lump sum payment of \$57,500.00, to be paid through an ACH deposit to petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to petitioner.

#### III. **Summary of Recommended Payments Following Judgment**

Lump sum payable to petitioner, Jeanmarie Walsh: \$57,500.00

Respectfully submitted,

YAAKOV M. ROTH Acting Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

HEATHER L. PEARLMAN Deputy Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

LARA A. ENGLUND **Assistant Director** Torts Branch, Civil Division

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future, unreimbursed expenses, future lost earnings and future pain and suffering.

/s/ ELIZABETH A. ANDARY

ELIZABETH A. ANDARY
Trial Attorney
Torts Branch, Civil Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 146, Benjamin Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044-0146

Tel: (202) 616-9824

E-mail: Elizabeth.A.Andary@usdoj.gov

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